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ABSTRACT

Developmental assets are a research-based list of 40 essential building blocks of healthy youth development and comprise the relationships, experiences, and values that youth need to grow up caring, confident, and responsible. This kit is a resource designed for elementary schools and organizations working with youth and parents to help them easily integrate the 40 strength-based assets into the classroom, school, organization, or community. The kit is presented in five sections. Section 1, "Tying Assets to the Classroom," includes a student success/parents as partners package to introduce first and second graders to their new classroom and teacher and to promote a teacher-parent partnership. Also included are poems to remind parents of the importance of their involvement in their child's education, sample homework helper letters, and achievement award certificates. Section 2, "Sending Assets Home," contains information flyers for parents to reinforce school-wide asset-building efforts. Section 3, "Spreading the Asset Message," contains posters, sample newsletter articles, and bulletin board ideas (in Spanish and English versions) to promote the asset message. Section 4, "Connecting Assets to School Events," includes ideas for introducing the developmental assets into meetings and events at school. Section 5, "Teacher Tips," contains tip sheets and resources for teachers on building productive relationships with parents, supporting students, and building a web of support among school staff. Each of the kit's five sections is preceded by a tab card with instructions and tips on how to use the items in that section. (KB)

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